

The recent decision by Sinclair Broadcasting to require their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. This is an example of why we need tighter rules on media consolidation.

Since Sinclair (and others) use the public airwaves free of charge, they are obligated by law to serve the public interest. Instead of the public interest, they serve the bottom line and political interests when they get too large and control the airwaves. We need more programming which is good for our democracy instead of blatant propaganda. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. The license renewal process needs to ensure that companies continue to serve the public interest, rather than being a rubber stamp. Thank you.